REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2003, Applicants propose to amend their application and request reconsideration in view of the proposed amendment and following remarks. In this Amendment, claims 3-11 are proposed to be cancelled. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1 and 13-23 will be pending.

Claims 13-23 are allowed.

In this Amendment claim 10 is rewritten in independent form as amended claim 1. Because of the complex relationship of claim 10 to claim 1, considering the limitations of intervening claims 4, 8, and 9, it is not possible to simply rewrite claim 10 in a rational way by listing the limitations of the intervening claims in serial form. Nevertheless, it is believed that the amended claim 1 presented here faithfully represents the claim 10 that was conceded to be allowable. Therefore, amended claim 1 should be allowed.

In response to the comments concerning the drawings, a formal drawing sheet including the amendment of Figure 3A made in the Preliminary Amendment and previously approved is supplied.

Since the foregoing amendment places the application in form for allowance, entry of the Amendment and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Joffer A. Wyand, Registration No. 29,458

LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER

700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300

Washington, DC 20005-3960 (202) 737-6770 (telephone)

(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date: Sept 2 W 3